

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 OUAGAD 02095 052245Z

66

ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 PC-15 USIA-15 IO-15 DODE-00 AGR-20

ACDA-19 INT-08 COME-00 RSC-01 DRC-01 /164 W

----- 028665

P R 051750Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7114

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

UNCLAS OUAGADOUGOU 2095

AFDROUGHT

FOR JOINT STATE/AID ACTION

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJ: DROUGHT RELIEF: PROPOSED GROUND WATER SURVEY

REF: OUAGADOUGOU 1786 PARA 7(E)

NDJAMENA FOR FEI

1. SUMMARY. ONE SMALL DROUGHT-RELATED PROJECT HERE URGENTLY NEEDS DOLS 4,000 FUNDING BECAUSE OF TIME FACTOR. THIS IS FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR GEOTHERMAL GROUND WATER SURVEY IN GONDO PLAIN. FERMINO SPENCER WAS FAVORABLY IMPRESSED BY PROPOSAL WHILE IN OUAGADOUGOU (REFTEL.) STUDY NEEDS TO BE DONE IN OCTOBER IN ORDER ENABLE SURVEY BE DONE IN SEASON WHICH OFFERS OPTIMAL RESULTS. REQUEST FUNDING ALLOCATION SOONEST FROM EITHER EMERGENCY OR RECOVERY FUNDS. REGRET INABILITY WAIT FOR FEI TEAM VISIT. AMBASSADOR DISCUSSED PROJECT WITH SPENCER IN WASHINGTON TEN DAYS AGO. END SUMMARY.

2. AT REQUEST GOUV, GEOTHERMAL SURVEYS, INC. (GSI) IN JOINT VENTURE WITH PACIFIC ARCHITECTS AND ENGINEERS INC.
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 OUAGAD 02095 052245Z

(PAE) HAS OFFERED DO GEOTHERMAL SURVEY TO LOCATE GROUND

WATER IN GONDO PLAIN IN NOUNA CERCLE. PLAIN PRESENTLY UNINHABITED BECAUSE LACKS WELLS. ONLY ONE WELL IN PLAIN ITSELF, AND THAT IS 150 METERS DEEP. VOLTANS CANNOT MAKE HAND-DUG WELL THAT DEEP, BUT FOR DRILLED WELL THAT IS ONLY MODEST DEPTH. GEOLOGISTS ALL AGREE THAT EXTENSIVE GROUNDWATER EXISTS IN "CONTINENTAL TERMINAL" GEOLOGIC FORMATION UNDERLYING PLAIN.

3. TO FIND SUITABLE WELL LOCATIONS, GOUV WANTS SURVEY BY GEOTHERMAL SURVEYS INC., (4155 EAGLE ROCK BLVD., LOS ANGELES, CAL. 90065 -- TEL 213/255-4511). GSI HAS UNIQUE CAPABILITY THIS REGARD BECAUSE IT IS ONLY US FIRMS EXPERIENCED IN FINDING WATER BY GEOTHERMAL METHODS (MEASUREMENT AND CORRELATION OF SHALLOW UNDERGROUND TEMPERATURES). GSI HAS HAD EXCELLENT SUCCESS IN COMPARABLE DRY AREAS OF US SOUTHWEST AND MEXICO. IN COMPARISON TO SEISMIC WORK, THE MAIN ALTERNATIVE, GEOTHERMAL METHODS ARE CHEAPER, GIVE MORE PRECISE RESULTS, AND LEAD TO WELLS WITH HIGHER FLOW.

4. DR. JOSEPH BIRMAN, PRESIDENT OF GSI, VISITED GONDO PLAIN IN AUGUST AND IS CONVINCED THAT GEOTHERMAL METHODS APPLICABLE. GSI/PAE LETTER OF AUG. 29 PROPOSES INITIAL FEASIBILITY STUDY COSTING DOLS 4,000 TO CONFIRM APPLICABILITY OF METHOD. FOR FEASIBILITY STUDY, WOULD MEASURE AND CORRELATE TEMPERATURES IN EXISTING WELLS ON FRINGES OF GONDO PLAIN. ESSENTIAL THAT THIS STUDY BE DONE IN OCTOBER, SO THAT MAIN RESEARCH CAN BE DONE IN NOVEMBER-DECEMBER, WHEN CONTINUING UNDERGROUND FLOW OF WATER COMING FROM SUMMER RAINS WILL ENSURE BEST RESULTS. MAIN STUDY WOULD COST FROM DOLS 30,000 UP DEPENDING ON SIZE OF AREA COVERED. WHILE IT PREMATURE FOR ANY DONOR ACTUALLY CONSIDER WELL-DRILLING, GOUV HAS ALREADY MADE PRELIMINARY CONTACT WITH IBRD.

5. GONDO PLAIN IS ESPECIALLY ATTRACTIVE BECAUSE, WHILE STARTING SMALL, THE INEXPENSIVE SURVEYS AND A FEW PASTORAL WELLS, IT CAN RESULT IN OPENING UP SIGNIFICANT NEW AREA TO AGRICULTURAL SETTLEMENT IF WELLS DRILLED HAVE SUITABLE SUSTAINED FLOW. ADJACENT AREAS ARE ALREADY MAJOR

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 OUAGAD 02095 052245Z

RECIPIENTS OF MIGRANTS FROM OVERPOPULATED YATENGA REGION, AND GONDO PLAIN COULD BE ALSO IF WELLS PROVE OUT.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: REQUEST DOLS 4,000 BE APPROVED AT ONCE SO FEASIBILITY SURVEY CAN BE MADE. OTHERWISE YEAR MAY BE LOST, UNTIL OPTIMUM SEASON COMES AGAIN. WE HAD ORIGINALLY ENVISAGED EMERGENCY FUNDING, BUT RECOVERY-PHASE FUNDING SUITABLE IF CAN BE OBLIGATED AT ONCE.EASUM

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DISASTER RELIEF, WATER, NATURAL RESOURCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973OUAGAD02095
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: OUAGADOUGOU
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731047/aaaabiuk.tel
Line Count: 115
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AID
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: OUAGADOUGOU 1786 PARA 7(E)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 NOV 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30-Nov-2001 by chappeld>; APPROVED <08 MAR 2002 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DROUGHT RELIEF: PROPOSED GROUND WATER SURVEY
TAGS: EAID, SWEL, UV
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005